COLEANDSARAHM@GMAIL.COM

MARCH 20, 2023



#### Cole and Sarah McCauley, your hands and feet for the orphaned

"AND THAT FROM CHILDHOOD YOU HAVE KNOWN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, WHICH ARE ABLE TO MAKE YOU WISE FOR SALVATION THROUGH FAITH WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS." – 2 TIMOTHY 3:15

The last couple of months have brought some fresh opportunities to make Christ known to the children of Casa de Mi Padre. Since the beginning of the year, we have welcomed 6 new kids into our care and also the little boy of our new house parents. We have started up a preschool program and a junior version of our Bible quizzing program to meet the needs of our newcomers. Both programs are up and running now, after a couple of minor setbacks due to a chicken pox outbreak among all the new kids! Please join us in praying that God would bless our efforts in teaching the gospel and scriptures to all of our children, that the Holy Spirit would enlighten their minds and touch their hearts, and that they would have faith in Jesus. Also, join us in praising God for His guidance and His answering of prayers during the last few months. In this letter, Sarah would like to share a few of the ways God has been working...

In late January, Cole and I spent some time praying together focusing on asking God to guide us in our efforts with our mission work and to petition Him to provide for our increasing needs. I had also been talking with a sister in Christ in the USA about praying for the Lord to use me in new ways to minister to the kids at Casa de Mi Padre. Usually, I help with behind-the-scenes aspects of mission work (publishing prayer letters, sending thank you's, financial record keeping, website designing) and spend most of my time at home taking care of our little kids, who are ages 4, 3, 2, and 9 months. Well, one Saturday soon after we started this focused praying, I was taking a nap, and I had a vivid dream about Cole and I discussing doing some fasting as we ask the Lord to guide us. I had never had a dream about fasting in my life! In fact, I have to admit, that I had never fasted from food in my life, either. I had recently read a book about spiritual disciplines that explained that the Bible recommends fasting as an aid to praying, but I didn't want to do it since I've been pregnant and/or nursing a baby for the last 5 years and didn't want to give up the calories. Anyway, in the dream, I figured out that I could fast from my usual midnight snack when I get up to help whichever one of our kids wakes up; I could dedicate those late night times to praying and listening for God's leading. Then I could make sure I still got enough calories during the day. I woke up from the dream. I called Cole and told him about it, and we both decided that we should do some fasting...

Early the next week, Shane, our founder, called with the idea that we should organize some preschool activities for the littlest kids at Casa de Mi Padre. Normally, the youngest children we take in to Casa de Mi Padre are about five years old, so they are able to attend school and participate in activities with the rest of the kids. Occasionally we have taken younger kids if they are part of a

#### **Childhood** learning



Moises, Adrian, and Patrick learning about the shield of faith



Bilingual activity time at the McCauley's house



Adrian got some chocolate from his teacher, Sandra, after learning to count to five on his fingers

group of siblings. The two newest little boys, Moises and Adrian, were cousins to four siblings who have been with us since 2018. The grandmother of these kids had asked us to take these new boys even though they are only 3 and 5. The boys' mother had been killed by their father, who was now in prison. The grandmother could not provide adequate care for the youngsters and she knew the high quality of care that her other grandchildren receive under our roof. We agreed to take them in mid-January. Also, our new house parents started working in January, and they have a preschool age boy. So now we had to figure out how best to care for some younger children. Shane also had

an idea that we could ask Sandra, one of the young ladies who grew up in Casa de Mi Padre and now lives in our home, if she would like to be the teacher for the little boys. Sandra had been looking for a job without success, and Shane had funds from sponsors for kids' educations to pay for a teacher. This would be a blessing to everyone involved. Sandra said she would be willing to try but had never taught any students before. As a former teacher, I told her I would be happy to help her with lesson plans and finding good materials. Since Patrick and Elizabeth are preschool age, I have lots of supplies and curriculum I am already using with them and just needed to make a few adjustments and translations to make it work for the Spanish speaking students. During my midnight praying and fasting times that week, I was blessed with so many ideas for this new endeavor! That Thursday, some of the little kids who would be in the preschool group came to our house to play while the older kids were busy studying at the orphanage. At one point, 3 year old Adrian started to cry and ask for his dad. My heart went out to him. He is basically the same age as our little bubbly daughter Elizabeth, but he's had so much sadness in his life. As I continued my lesson planning, I had a renewed sense of the calling of our mission work here: to reach the hearts of the children with the love and life-changing power of God and to give them a future and a hope..to help them move beyond the darkness of their past trauma and to help them bring the light of Christ to others around them... to help them know the Scriptures and follow the lead of the Holy Spirit to guide them for the rest of their lives. I got really excited about planning for this new preschool program, laid out a plan for the whole school year, and handed the curriculum overview to Shane that Sunday at church. It included Bible lessons, memory verses, and Christian songs as well as the typical preschool activities of coloring, shapes, ABC's, numbers, and art projects. I also included some bilingual activities and weekly "play days" at our house so that the students can get exposure to English while they are young and able to absorb language learning easiest. Our hope and goal is that these young students will become familiar with the Bible and the gospel during these crucial early years.

As Shane looked at the preschool plans, he mentioned that it might also be good to organize some

Bible memory work for the kids who are not yet old enough to compete in our Bible quizzing program for those age 11 and older. Well, God was certainly answering my prayer to have fresh ways to minister to the kids at Casa! That week, I busily set to work to prepare a program for

To Support by Mail: Checks to "Child Rescue" Memo: COLE MCCAULEY

Child Rescue 11201 Parallel Parkway Kansas City, KS 66109



To Support by credit card online: Go to www.savingkids.net Click on the "Give" tab Select *Cole & Sarah McCauley* 

the middle aged kids. Later that week, we got three new boys in the orphanage, one who is preschool age, one who is 8, and one who is 11. Again, during my late night praying and fasting times, God blessed me with helpful hints on what to include and ways to make this memory work fun for the kids. Patrick and Elizabeth (and even our 2 year old Lucy) love the Foundation Verses program from Truth78; it includes flashcards with a colorful picture for each verse (to help jog the memories of kids who don't know how to read yet) and a coloring book to match. So, for each month I am making a mini-coloring book with the verses to be learned; it also includes some catechism questions and

a few songs. The whole book is in both Spanish and English, so kids can learn it in their heart language and also branch out into a second language if they wish. (In Guatemala, if you are proficient in English you are pretty much guaranteed to be able to get a decent paying job. Based on how hard it has been to find jobs for our older kids who age out



of Casa, we are hoping and praying that we can help more kids learn English well and that maybe another missionary from the USA might come to help in this area.) Our first official Junior Bible Quizzing practice kicked off last Saturday. We are even considering performing a program of some songs and verses sometime in June, maybe even doing a livestream of it! *Please pray that the kids would be motivated to hide God's word in their hearts and that the truths they learn will guide them throughout their lives.* 

In the verse at the beginning of this letter, it's interesting to note that "childhood" is translated from a Greek word that can mean newborn or even unborn baby. God can bless even the youngest learner as they are exposed to the words of Scripture. In addition to all the new kids who we've welcomed recently, both the house mother for the boys at Casa and the house mother for the girls are expecting new babies to be born this fall! **Pray that we will be able to guide all of the little children in our ministry well as we seek to make them "wise for salvation through faith which is in our Lord Jesus Christ."** We'll talk to you soon! In Christ, The McCauleys and the kids of Casa

**To set up automatic <u>Monthly support</u>:** Go to the online giving link or contact Maywood Community Church at 913-721-2760. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

~ MISSION HIGHLIGHTS ~

**MARCH 2023** 



## Cole and Sarah McCauley, Your hands and feet for the orphaned

## Praises for God's blessings in the last month

- Thank you for praying for the 6 kids who had chicken pox this month and for Roxsana (the house mother of the boys) who got a second degree burn on her foot. They are all doing better and steadily improving.
- Praise the Lord that He hears our prayers and blesses us with ideas for ministering to the children of Casa de Mi Padre in new ways as we meet the needs of our new kids

## **Prayer requests**

• For our brand new preschool program and Junior Bible Quizzing program (for kids below the age of 11). Pray that the Lord would use these programs to lay a strong foundation of Biblical truth for our younger children that will lead to them trusting in Christ for salvation.

• For the six new kids who have come into our care since the beginning of the year. Pray that we and the staff can share the love of Christ with them and that they will feel as if they are part of the Casa de Mi Padre family.

#### Schedule for visiting the USA

We are starting to schedule times to speak and share updates and stories about our mission work; we hope to also inspire listeners to seek God's will in their own lives and then to serve Him wholeheartedly. *If you would like us to speak with your congregation, small group or at another venue, send us a message.* We

would love to get together with you! Here are the dates we still have open: April16 & 23 May 7

To Support by Mail: Checks to "Child Rescue" Memo: COLE MCCAULEY Child Rescue 11201 Parallel Parkway Kansas City, KS 66109

# Meet our new kids and staff!

•We just revamped our website, and we think you will enjoy browsing...

#### https://savingkids.net/

- Updated photos and bios of the kids and staff
- Information for sponsoring a child
- Links to current and previous prayer letters
- Direct links to various giving options
- Mission trip information and more!



To Support by credit card online:

Go to www.savingkids.net Click on the "Give" tab Select *Cole & Sarah McCauley* 





**To set up automatic <u>Monthly support</u>**: Go to the online giving link or contact Maywood Community Church at 913-721-2760. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.